GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3103
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2002
PATENT OF INDIAN RICE
SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some foreign companies have patented derivatives of Indian varieties of rice taking advantage of the loopholes in our Patent laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government contemplate the introduction of a clause in the new Patents Bill that any derivative of Indian geographical indicators based germplasm of these indicators would not be patented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(DR. RAMAN SINGH)

(a) to (d): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.